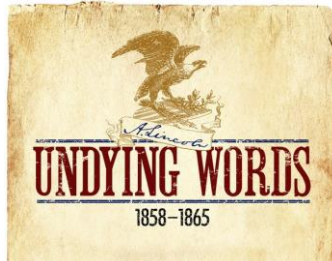




# ChicagoHistoryMuseum



## Exhibition Fact Sheet

<b>Exhibition:</b>	Undying Words: Lincoln 1858–1865
<b>Venue:</b>	Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois
<b>Location:</b>	Illinois Gallery
<b>Dates:</b>	November 22, 2014–February 28, 2016
<b>Cost:</b>	Free with regular museum admission

### Description

A powerful look at Lincoln's greatest words and how they helped end slavery in America. "Undying Words" explores the most important speeches of Lincoln's career, showing how his views on slavery evolved as he sought to hold the country together. One hundred fifty years after the Civil War ended and Lincoln died, this exhibit shows what was at stake for the slaves, soldiers and families caught up in the crisis Lincoln devoted himself to ending.

### Exhibition Highlights

- More than 120 items will be on display, including two dozen that have never before been displayed publicly.
- Of the five centerpiece speeches and two documents, six will be displayed in their original form, whether hand-written or first printing. This is a first for any Lincoln-related exhibition. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum has never shown all six together, and might never do so again.
- Five interactive stations let visitors do things like explore Lincoln's words and ideas or compare the Lincoln family carriage to that of other world leaders. (Guests will likely be surprised at how simple the Lincoln's carriage was, compared to the others.)
- Artifacts illustrate how Lincoln's words have been remembered over the decades. Examples include an 1865 toy about the Emancipation Proclamation, a 1915 poster

about the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment and a 1950s brass door-knocker about the House Divided speech.

- Visitors will be able to contribute to the exhibit by the way of a word cloud, offering their own interpretation of Lincoln's words and answering questions regarding today's issues in light of Lincoln's words and ideals.
- Lincoln wrote out the famous phrases from his Second Inaugural, "fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray," for a woman who asked for a memento. This proves he was proud of that speech in the same way that he was proud of the Gettysburg Address. These are the only speeches that he "wrote again for fans" A copy of each will be displayed in the exhibit.
- First time on display anywhere:
  - Robert Lincoln's personal photo album from his days at Harvard, including girlfriends, professors and buildings.
  - A beautiful gold-leaf sealed condolence letter on vellum, presented to Mary Lincoln upon her husband's death by the people of Oldham, England.
  - A now-faded blue rosette that hung in the Old State Capitol immediately above Lincoln's face in his coffin.
- Daniel Chester French made a plaster maquette, or model, of Lincoln's bust while planning in 1908 for the Lincoln Memorial. It is just slightly larger than life-size. But when the Memorial's design was enlarged so that 36 columns could bestride the front—one for each of the 36 states in 1865—French had to triple the size of his marble Lincoln, to about 19 feet tall (if he stood up). The original, "slightly larger than life Lincoln" bust will be on display in the final portion of the exhibit.

### **Exhibition Catalog**

An 88-page, full color catalog will accompany the exhibition. The catalog features over 70 rarely seen images and artifacts, and includes full versions of Lincoln's most famous speeches: A House Divided, the First Inaugural Address, the Gettysburg Address, the Second Inaugural Address and the Speech on Reconstruction. It will be available for \$9.99 at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum Store and the Chicago History Museum Gift Shop.

### **The Museum's Lincoln Collection**

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Libraries Lincoln collection is the most complete repository of Abraham Lincoln's pre-presidential materials in the nation. The Presidential Library holds a lithographic signed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation and an original copy of the Gettysburg Address. The collection preserves more than 1,500 manuscripts written or signed by Lincoln. More than ten thousand books and pamphlets, 1,000 broadsides and 1,000 prints and photographs complete this unsurpassed collection relating to Lincoln and his family. The 2007 acquisition of the Taper Collection significantly increased the Lincoln Collection holdings. Highlights include hundreds of letter and documents in Lincoln's own hand and letters written by Mary Lincoln. Artifacts include a stove pipe hat and the gloves worn by Lincoln on the

evening of his assassination. The collection also includes printed books and materials about assassin John Wilkes Booth.